

To whom it may concern,

Sunset Hill, Inc. is a small non-profit agency providing supports for two adults living with ASD. As such, we are a private provider funded by the CT Department of Developmental Disabilities. The foundation of the supports we provide are therapeutic in nature and as such often exist outside the realm of typical medical intervention (no drugs). In spite of the fact that these two autistic men--they who are twin brothers--have been doing remarkably well over the years, we have been told recently that DDS "does not do therapies." We have already experienced funding decreases and fear that these supports are in jeopardy of being seriously underfunded or not funded at all. After providing more than 20 years of alternative therapeutic supports, it is our firm belief that any reduction in their use and accessibility would significantly affect the lives of the two individuals being supported.

Also, we strongly believe that these therapeutic interventions would be beneficial to many others living with ASD and that there should be a funding system in place to provide them to others in need. While we continue to be grateful to the State of Connecticut for the years of support we have received thus far, we believe more can be done to greatly benefit the lives of those living with ASD.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Garner